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Monday, March 14, 2011

THE SOURCE for local news in English Cava G.E. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 E. 5889518.

Japan battles nuclear emergency after deadly quake

FUKUSHIMA, Japan (AFP) - Japan battled a feared melt-down of two reactors at a quake-hit nuclear plant yesterday, as the full horror began emerging of the disaster on the ravaged northeast coast where more than 10,000 were feared dead.

An explosion at the ageing Fukushima No. 1 atomic plant blew apart the building housing one of its reactors Saturday, a day after the biggest quake ever recorded in Japan unleashed a monster tsunami.

The atomic emergency escalated Sunday as crews struggled to prevent overheating at a second reactor where the cooling system has also failed, and the government warned that it too could

suffer a blast.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan said the situation at the stricken power plant remained grave, and that Japan was facing its worst crisis since the end of World War II -- which left the defeated country in ruins.

"The current situation of the earthquake, tsunami and the nuclear plants is in a way the most severe crisis in the 65 years since World War II," Kan said in a televised national address.

"Whether we Japanese can overcome this crisis depends on each of us," said the premier, who was wearing an emergency services suit.

Continue on page 2



San Nicolas welcomes visiting motivational speaker Dr. Munroe



Minister de Meza with Myles Munroe

This past week, March 9, 10 and 11, Corporate Impact Ministries of Aruba, under the guidance of Pastor Harold Grant, conducted morning and evening sessions of a Leadership Conference with internationally renowned motivational and inspirational speaker Dr. Myles Munroe in the Renaissance Convention

Center in Oranjestad.

Dr. Myles Munroe so impressed Aruba's Minister of Finance, Communication, Utilities and Energy, Mike de Meza, he requested Dr. Munroe to please bring his message of hope and self-realization of success through The Lord's Kingdom on Earth, to the people of San Nicolas, many of whom had not the physical or financial means to attend the conference.

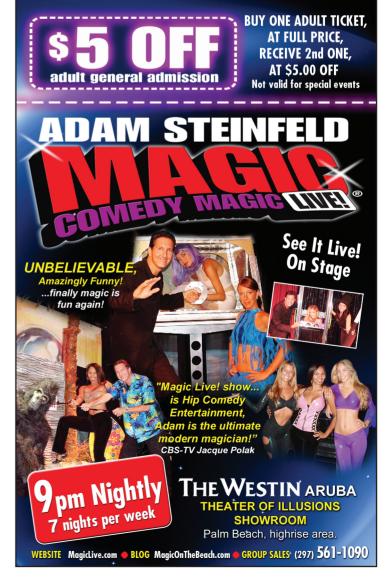
Dr. Munroe and Harold Grant graciously donated their time to a gratis Sunday evening revival meeting at the San Nicolas YMCA, which was attended by Minister de Mesa, joined by Prime Minister Mike Eman and Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn in the audience.

Dr. Munroe is president and founder of the Bahamas Faith Ministries International (BFMI), a Christian growth and resource center that includes leadership training institutes, a missions agency, publishing company, television

network, radio and Web communications, and a church community. He is CEO and

chairman of the board of the International

Continue on page 4



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Japan battles nuclear emergency after deadly quake

Continued from page 1



Japanese authorities report a second nuclear reactor has been damaged

Kan said the shutdown of reactors across the quake zone would entail rolling power outages nationwide, and urged citizens to conserve energy. Japan's nuclear industry provides about a third of its power needs

Top government spokesman Yukio Edano said it was highly

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likely that a partial meltdown had occurred at the plant's number one reactor, and a second was possible at the plant 250 kilometres (160 miles) northeast of Tokyo.

A meltdown occurs when a reactor core overheats and causes damage to the facility, potentially unleashing radiation into the environment.

Edano said that some radiation had escaped in the accident, but that the levels released into the air were so far not high enough to affect human health.

Plant operator Tokyo Electric Power later said that despite continuing efforts, it had not managed to ensure the tops of the fuel rods in the two troubled reactors remained submerged. Exposed rods are an indication of a possible meltdown.

A cooling pump at another plant 120 kilometres from Tokyo, the Tokai No. 2, had failed, but a back-up was working and cooling the reactor, a plant spokesman said.

The United Nations said a total of 590,000 people had been evacuated in the quake and tsunami disaster, including 210,000 living near the Fukushima nuclear plants.

The immense force of the quake moved Honshu -- the main Japanese island -- 2.4 metres (eight feet), the US Geological Survey said.

The police chief in Miyagi

prefecture -- where Minamisanriku is situated -- said the death toll was certain to exceed 10,000 in his region.

The national police agency said the confirmed death toll now stood at 1,597.

But as the world's thirdlargest economy struggled to assess the full extent of the disaster, groups of hundreds of bodies were being found along the shattered coastline.

In the city of Fukushima, about 80 kilometres northwest of the stricken nuclear plant, people were panic-buying at supermarkets and petrol stations had run dry.

Many survivors were left without water, electricity, fuel or enough food, as authorities appeared overwhelmed by the monumental scale of the disaster.

Leading risk analysis firm AIR Worldwide said the quake alone would exact an economic toll estimated at between \$14.5 billion and \$34.6 billion (10 billion to 25 billion euros), without taking into account the effects of the tsunami.

Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei index is expected to tumble on Monday, with the benchmark index possibly breaking the psychologically important 10,000 level.

The Bank of Japan plans to pump "massive" funds into markets in a bid to help them stabilise following the quake, Dow Jones Newswires said.

Japan committed 100,000 troops -- about 40 percent of the armed forces -- to spearhead a mammoth rescue and recovery effort with hundreds of ships, aircraft and vehicles headed to the Pacific coast area.

Japan sits on the "Pacific Ring of Fire", and Tokyo is in one of its most dangerous areas, where three continental plates are slowly grinding against each other, building up enormous seismic pressure.

Some 2,000 Ivorians rally in support of Kadhafi

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast(AFP) - Some 2,000 Ivorians in a suburb loyal to strongman Laurent Gbagbo rallied in support of Libya's embattled leader Moamer Kadhafi who is fighting an insurgency, an AFP journalist witnessed.

During the protest in the Yopougon stadium in the east of the capital, a stronghold of Gbagbo who has refused to step down after November elections, French flags were burned in protest against the policies of Nicolas Sarkozy.

The French president is at the frontline of anti-Kadhafi diplomacy, as well as being the foreign head of state who is the most reviled by Gbagbo's supporters.

"We are disgusted by the

attitude of Nicolas Sarkozy. We are disgusted by his interference in Libya," said Jean Gervais Tchiffie Zie, an Ivorian leader of the Forum of Kings and Sultans of Africa established by Kadhafi, which organised the rally.

"We warn him because it is the wrath of kings which will befall him," said Tchiffie Zie, dressed in royal regalia.

Gbagbo refuses to cede power to rival Alassane Ouattara despite being widely recognised as having lost a November 28 election.

His supporters accuse Sarkozy of being one of the architects of international sanctions against his regime in the former French colony.

Radiation at Onagawa nuclear plant back to normal: IAEA

VIENNA, (AFP) - Radiation levels at the Onagawa nuclear plant in Japan have returned to normal after a state of emergency was called there earlier, the UN atomic watchdog IAEA said Sunday.

Earlier, excessive levels at Onagawa had led the authorities to report a state of emergency there.

The IAEA said it would continue to liaise with the Japanese authorities and was "monitoring the situation as it evolves."

IAEA chief Yukiya Amaon is to hold a news briefing about the current situation at Japan's nuclear power plants at the agency's headquarters on Monday

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Lion's Club partners with Monte Verde Residences for their annual house raffle



Back of the model house and Lion's club members with Elaine Arends of Monte Verde and Mari Carmin of Berloni





Claret Lopez president of Lion's Club

Claret Lopez, President of the Aruba chapter of Lion's Club International welcomed press along with Elaine Arends of Monte Verde Residences in Seroe Biento on Thursday afternoon to unveil a model of the home that will be offered in the service club's annual fundraising raffle.

The house, a brand new 3 bed/3bath model, is one of six layouts offered by the developers, ranging in size form 79.6 square meters to 142 square meters on owned-outright property land plots that vary in size. The community is comprised of 121 lots for a total of 90,000 square meters.

The mid-size model house, "Flor Jasmine," measures 101 square meters and is an exact example of the one being offered during the raffle. It boasts quality fittings in both the kitchens by Berloni and bathrooms and floor tiles by Banjolux. The master bedroom has its own bathroom and a walk-in closet, and the living room has

a high cathedral ceiling in a very attractive natural wood finish.

Today and tomorrow, from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM, Monte Verde Residences is conducting an open house for potential homeowners and any interested in seeing what they might win in the raffle. Claret expressed that the Lion's Club is proud to be offering this quality dwelling during their principal fundraising event for the year, which is valued at well over 200,000 Arubian florins.

Tickets for the raffle will go on sale April 15, the drawing will be November 4, and they cost 25 Arubian florins per ticket; they are available at the Lion's Club headquarters in Eagle, various shops around the island and from the members. To view the homes offered by Monte Verde Residences, visit their website: www.monteverdearuba.com or call 734-1200 for information and directions.

by Rosalie Klein

We Must Minimize the impact of World Crude Prices

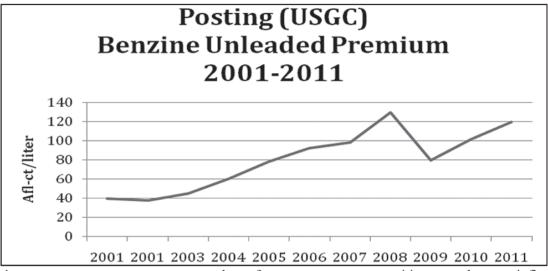
The political instability in the Middle East is affecting the global price of crude oil. During the past days we have noticed a substantial increase in the price of crude, which is directly affecting the price of various oil products such as gasoline, diesel, which in turn ultimately affects the price of electricity and water produc-

WEB (the water production plant) and Valero to evaluate the possibility of the use of LNG (Liquid Natural Gas) to reduce the cost of energy production. This will undoubtedly have a major effect on the price of water and electricity for Aruba. It is expected that the realization of gas as an alternative may take

and it is expected that in 2011 this will be expanded.

As of January 1st 2011, the government reduced the import duty tariff on automobiles with electrically powered engines in an effort to stimulate a sustainable economy.

Along with the government's efforts, each one of us



tion

Minister of Economic Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer, has issued a communiqué advising the island of the current international developments and the effect that these developments may have on Aruba. As of Wednesday March 9th, the price of unleaded

Premium gasoline is set at 216 cents per liter, which is an increase of 5.3 cents. The price of Diesel LS is now 198 cents per liter, an increase of 11.1 cents per liter. And, the price of kerosene has risen to 193 cents per liter, which represents an increase of 11.0 cents per liter.

The supply of oil from the Middle East is essential for most of the world. Aruba, who depends almost entirely on importation, is especially hit hard by this development. The potentially long political instability in the Middle East and the risk this may have on the oil infrastructure in these countries are important factors to the world with respect to the price of crude oil.

Minister Winklaar-Hooyboer has indicated that the government will maintain the excise tariff reduction (10 cents per liter) which was implemented in May 2007 in order to absorb the price increase on oil at that time.

The government will continue their efforts to stimulate the creation of and use of other forms of more efficient and less expensive energy. Talks are underway between

anywhere from one to two years for such a project. The windmills at the Aruba Windmills Park are contributing to the production of efficient energy. The government is exploring the possibility for building a second Windmills Park. Last year the Seawater Reverse Osmosis plant was put into operation at WEB

as citizens can have an influence on the monthly expenditures related to petrol products. As we reduce the consumption of energy, implement the use of alternative energy products, purchase more energy efficient products, we will so doing contribute to keeping the energy cost down.





Sound and vision workshop at the Ateliers '89



Beginning this Monday, March 14, Ateliers '89 will be starting the next phase of the ongoing workshops "Sound and Vision." The works of art produced

The works of art produced during the first phase will be combined with those of the second in a single grand exposition on Thursday, April 7, with an Art Festival ambience.

We are not quite there-the first phase has resulted in some fantastic and impressive art pieces; now a new group of students will have the opportunity to exercise their imagination and creativity.

With the theme of SOUND AND VISION, the students are challenged to interpret music to produce a visual work of art or to translate an existing art piece into music.

Music as inspiration for visual art has respected precedents. A number of renowned artists have produced such works. Piet Modriaan, during

his time in New York was inspired by Jazz to produce his world famous piece "BROADWAY BOOGIE – WOOGIE". The workshop asked students to imagine how would "THE SCREAM" of Edvard Munch sound if it was translated to music?

Teachers Monica Tormell and Orheo de Jong have joined forces to bring us this most interesting workshop. Both graduates of the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam, Holland, they will show their own works, produced together, during a lecture on the first evening of the workshops.

If interested in participating, call Ateliers '89 to enroll; 588-5776 or 565-4613. Workshops start this coming Monday, March 14. Sessions are conducted Monday to Thursday, from 6.30 to 9.30 PM at Ateliers '89, Dominicannessenstraat 34 Oranjestad.



San Nicolas welcomes visiting motivational speaker Dr. Munroe

Continued from page 1



Ghislane Grant leads the choir

Third World Leaders Association and president of the International Leadership Training Institute. He has personally authored 23 books and collaborated on over 60 books, tapes and study guides which are currently available in English, Spanish and Portuguese. In 2004, he was named the Oral Roberts University Alumnus of the Year, from which he received an honorary doctorate, one of many commendations, including those from The Bahamas for his contributions to their community.

It was a stirring and inspirational evening for the residents of San Nicolas provided by Dr. Munroe along with Harold Grant of Corporate Impact Ministries and his wife, Ghislane, who leads their inspirational band and translates his sermons to Papiamento for their audience. For more detailed content of Dr. Munroe's message, visit his website: http://mylesmunroeinternational.com or search him on Youtube.

by Rosalie Klein



Rev Grant welcomes Mike de Meza to the podium



Myles Munroe and spouse



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Press Release from Aruba Birdlife Conservation Information evening First National Bird Count of Aruba, Tuesday 7:30 P.M. at the Department of Culture

Kinikini

27 cm

Parha di Joonchi

14 cm

On Tuesday evening, March 15th, at 7:30 P.M. the Department of Culture, in collaboration with the National Park Arikok and Aruba Birdlife Conservation, is organizing an informative gathering about the First National Bird Count of Aruba. The event will take place at the Department of Culture which is located next to the San Francisco Church in Oranjestad.

The gathering is meant for anyone who would like some more information about the national bird count. Topics of the evening are the 'why and how' of the bird count, how to use the especially designed counting form and which birds are to be counted. Visitors will be given ample opportunity to ask questions and will of course be provided with a bird count form.

National bird counts are held in different countries every year. The world renowned American Audubon Society has been organizing national bird counts for over 110 years and in the U.S.A. it is known as the 'Christmas Bird Count' because the event is held during the Christmas holidays.

The model to be used in Aruba is based on the national count organized by "Vogelbescherming Nederland" or "Bird Protection Netherlands". In the Netherlands the count is known as the "Tuinvogeltelling" or Garden Bird Count. The form which will be used in Aruba is based on the Dutch model.

Aruba's first National Bird Count will be held on the National Day of Aruba, March 18th, 2011. The count will last only 15 minutes and should take place between 7 and 9 in the morning when the birds are most active.

It is estimated that more than 20.000 baby Boa constrictors will be born in 2011. In 2010 the invasive Boa constrictor has eaten over 17.000 birds in Aruba. The national bird count will be repeated every March 18th and is intended to help monitor Aruba's bird populations. More information can be attained via www.arubabirdlifeconservation.com.



Totolica

14 cm

Buladeifi

25 cm

Barbacoa

34 cm

Sci-Tech

British court hands down first libel fine for tweet

LONDON (AFP) – A former Welsh mayor became the first Briton to be ordered to pay libel damages over a Twitter entry after a political rival sued him in the high court, a report said on Saturday.

Colin Elsbury, a former mayor in the south Wales town of Caerphilly had tweeted ahead of a council election that his independent challenger Eddie Talbot had been "forcibly removed" from a polling station by police before realising that it was a case of mistaken identity, The Times newspaper said.

Although Elsbury later tried to correct the tweet, Tal-

bot took him to court in the Welsh capital Cardiff where a judge on Friday handed down a fine of £3,000 (about 3,500 euros) and ordered him to pay costs of around £50,000 as well as apologise publicly to Talbot on his Twitter feed.

"This was a genuine case of mistaken identity which I have acknowledged," Elsbury, a member of the Welsh nationalist Plaid Cymru party, said after the verdict.

"This case will no doubt act as a warning to people, including politicians, to be extremely careful when using Twitter and other social media such as blogs."

US warns of quake-related Internet scams

WASHINGTON (AFP) – US computer security authorities warned on Friday that online scammers may seek to exploit the earthquake in Japan.

The US Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) told computer users to be wary of "potential email scams, fake antivirus and phishing attacks regarding the Japan earthquake and the tsunami disasters."

"Email scams may contain links or attachments which may direct users to phishing or malware-laden websites," US-CERT said in a statement.

"Fake antivirus attacks may come in the form of pop-



This product image courtesy of Happiness Brussels shows the Slow Down app being used on an iPhone. Slow Down alters the tempoof your music on an iPhone or iPod Touch, depending on your driving speed. Using GPS, the music slows down if you're rocking out at the speed limit and stops altogether when you've exceeded it.

ups which flash security warnings and ask the user for credit card information," it said

"Phishing emails and websites requesting donations for bogus charitable organizations commonly appear after these types of natural disasters," US-CERT added.

Phishing refers to attempts to steal user names, passwords and other personal information from unsuspecting victims, mostly through email or instant messages.

The massive, 8.9-magnitude quake left hundreds dead in Japan and unleashed a tsunami in the Pacific.

Report: Windows Phone 7 Marketplace Hits 10,000 Apps

The Windows Phone 7 Marketplace has reached a milestone: it now boasts more than 10,000 apps in its ranks, and it hit this number of apps faster than any other app store.

At time of publication, there are 10,037 apps in Microsoft's mobile application shop. According to data cited by Pocketnow, Microsoft has sped up its app approval process, allowing roughly 1,200 apps in the store a week, versus the previous rate of 1,000 each week.

Pocketnow says it took Apple 4.7 months to get 10,000 apps in the App Store, and it took the Android Market 11 months. Palm's Web OS store launched 15 months ago and it has grown at a much slower rate; the store has just 5,000 apps. The Windows Phone 7 Marketplace, on the other hand, reached 10,000 apps in just 4.5 months.

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Quake moved Japan by 8 feet: USGS



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Japan's recent massive earth-quake, one of the largest ever recorded, appears to have moved the island by about eight feet (2.4 meters), the US Geological Survey said Saturday.

"That's a reasonable number," USGS seismologist Paul Earle told AFP. "Eight feet, that's certainly going to be in the ballpark."

Friday's 8.9 magnitude quake unleashed a terrifying tsunami that engulfed towns and cities on Japan's northeastern coast, destroying everything in its path in what Prime Minister Naoto Kan said was an "unprecedented national disaster."

The quake and its tectonic shift resulted from "thrust faulting" along the boundary

of the Pacific and North America plates, according to the USGS.

The Pacific plate pushes under a far western wedge of the North America plate at the rate of about 3.3 inches (83 millimeters) per year, but a colossal earthquake can provide enough of a jolt to dramatically move the plates, with catastrophic consequences.

"With an earthquake this large, you can get these huge ground shifts," Earle said. "On the actual fault you can get 20 meters (65 feet) of relative movement, on the two sides of the fault."

He said similar movements would have been seen for Chile and Indonesia.

In December 2004, a 9.1 magnitude quake off Sumatra caused a tsunami that killed an estimated 228,000 people. An 8.8 quake off the coast of Chile in February 2010 killed more than 500.

There was not a similar ground shift in the 7.0 earth-quake that devastated Haiti in February 2010, Earle said.

"A magnitude 7.0 is much smaller than the earthquake that just happened in Japan," he said. "We've had aftershocks (in Japan) larger than the Haiti earthquake."

Kenneth Hudnut, a USGS geophysicist, said experts read data including from global positioning systems to determine the extend of the shift

"We know that one GPS station moved (eight feet), and we have seen a map from GSI (Geospatial Information Authority) in Japan showing the pattern of shift over a large area is consistent with about that much shift of the land mass," he told CNN.



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Health & Living

Don't Let Time Change Disrupt Your Sleep Patterns:



-- Worried that your sleep patterns will be disrupted when the clocks move ahead one hour this weekend? The key is getting enough zzz's in advance, says one sleep expert.

First, make sure you're well rested before the switch to daylight saving time on Sunday, advises Dr. Aparajitha Verma, medical director of the Sleep

Disorders Center at the Methodist Neurological Institute in Houston.

One way to do that is to start changing your sleep habits in the days before the time change; for example, start getting up and going to sleep an hour earlier, Verma said.

You can also take a nap on Sunday afternoon if you feel you need to and you have the time. But avoid napping within a few hours of your regular bedtime because that could disrupt your nighttime sleep, she added.

As you try to adapt to the time change, remember that certain persistent problems may indicate a more serious sleeping disorder. These include: remaining awake after 30 minutes of trying to go to sleep; excessive daytime sleepiness; or sleeping for seven or more hours and waking up tired.

If you experience such problems, you may want to consider participating in an overnight study at an accredited sleep study center, Verma said.

US approves first new lupus drug in 56 years



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US health officials announced approval of the first new drug in 56 years to treat lupus, a potentially fatal autoimmune disease affecting millions worldwide.

The US Food and Drug Administration said it approved belimumab, marketed under the trade name Benlysta, an inhibitor that may reduce the number of abnormal cells believed to be linked to the dis-

The disease, the origins of which are not known, is a serious, potentially fatal disease that attacks healthy tissues.

Lupus affects many parts of the body including the joints, the skin, kidneys, lungs, heart, and the brain. Its symptoms include swelling in the joints or joint pain, light sensitivity, fever, chest pain, hair loss, and fatigue.

It disproportionately affects women, and usually develops between ages 15 and 44. As many as 1.5 million Americans and five million people worldwide are believed to have the disease.

There is no known cure, but some drugs including the newly approved one appear to reduce the symptoms and flareups experienced by people diagnosed with lupus.

Benlysta, developed by the US firm Human Genome Sciences and Britain's Glaxo-SmithKline, is an intravenous treatment and the first to come on the US market since Plaquenil in 1955. Aspirin was approved to treat lupus in 1948.

Anti-AIDS drugs slow deaths in S.Africa



A nurse explains to a patient how to take anti-retroviral drugs at Emmaus hospital in the town of Winterton, South Africa.

CAPE TOWN (AFP) – South Africa's AIDS deaths have fallen by nearly 25 percent due to scaled up access to life-saving drugs, which the government for years had refused to provide, new research has

"The rapid expansion of South Africa's anti-retroviral

programme appears to have slowed down the AIDS mortality rate in recent years," said the Actuarial Society of South Africa (ASSA) in a statement.

The society's model, released this week, estimates that AIDS deaths fell from 257,000 six years ago to 194,000 last year.

In 2003, before the AIDS

drug roll-out, the group had projected an increase to 388,000 deaths in 2010, it said.

Their latest research estimates 10.9 percent of South Africans -- 5.5 million people -- were HIV positive last year.

From 2005 to 2010, infections among 15 to 24 year olds dropped 1.5 percent, but rose among 15 to 49 year olds by 0.6 percent, partly due to adults living longer due to anti-AIDS drugs.

The model does not include new prevention efforts, such as male circumcision shown to reduce female-to-male infection by 60 percent, and the state's widening of treatment access last year.

After years of refusing to provide drugs in one of the world's most affected societies, South Africa in December had one million people on

Medical aid to Libya rebels blocked: MSF



PARIS, France (AFP) -Aid group Doctors Without Borders warned Sunday that Libyan rebels are being denied medical help and urged access to treatment for the wounded regardless of political divisions.

'We are deeply concerned with the denial of access to medical care and the plight of patients in public health facilities within government-controlled areas," said Bruno Jochum, the group's director of operations, in a statement.

Forces loyal to strongman Moamer Kadhafi are pushing a fierce offensive against rebels and have driven them out of several towns.

The French-based group (Medecins sans Frontieres -MSF) said it has been supply-

ing aid in the partly rebel-held east of Libya for three weeks and want also to reach people in the west.

"In several conflict zones, such as Zawiyah and Misrata, large numbers of people are cut off from any external

assistance, while critical medical needs and shortages of medicine and materials are reported," it said in a statement.

The group "is extremely concerned with the situation of the wounded caught in the ical care they need."

middle of violent clashes, and calls for urgent unhindered access to medical assistance, irrespective of any political considerations."

"Despite ongoing intense fighting, our medical teams, who have been deliberately blocked at the Tunisian border in Ras Ajdir for weeks now, do not see any injured patients authorised to cross into Tunisia," Jochum said.

"Following medical ethics and international humanitarian law, it is crucial that all belligerent parties respect medical facilities, vehicles and personnel," he added.

'Ît is the only way patients will receive the urgent med-

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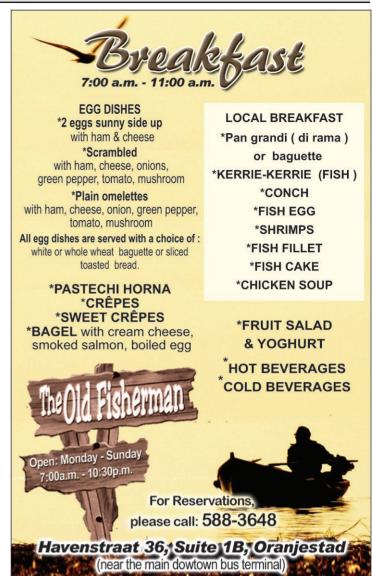


PALM BEACH, ARUBA (March 12, 2011) – On Saturday, April 2nd 2011 a fun bingo event will be organized from 2:00PM-5:00 PM in the Grand Ballroom of the Aruba Marriott Resort (hotel). There are many cash prizes to be won ranging from 75 to 750 florins, along with some very exciting door prizes

Il proceeds for this bingo will be used to cover the travel expenses of the Barracuda Synchronized Swimming Club of Aruba's top swimming performers, who will represent Aruba abroad. The Barracuda girls that perform in the synchronized swimming selection train very hard, around some 15-20 hours per week to put in the best scores for Aruba. Upcoming performances include synchronized swimming contests in Canada, Puerto Rico and Peru. The sports club does not have sufficient funds and therefore organizes this bingo at The Aruba Marriott Resort as a fundraiser. Everybody is welcome to join and great prizes can be won!

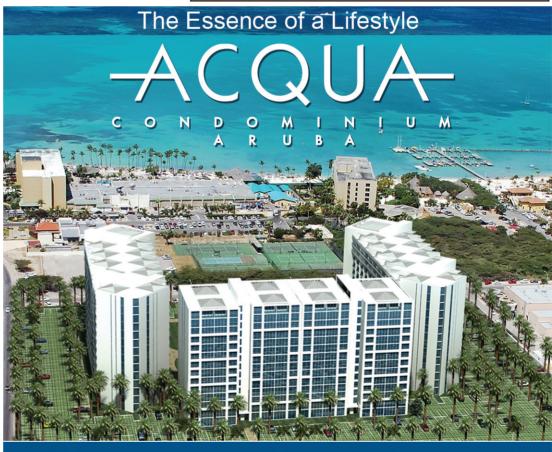
The Barracudas Synchronized Swimming Club was founded in 1975 and houses multiple top performing teams in synchronized swimming, consisting of girls (only) ranging in age from 6 to 18. With the Barracudas being the only synchronized swimming club in Aruba, they are well known throughout the Caribbean as one of the strongest performers in the region!

If you would like to be part of this winning team and become a synchronized swimmer at the Barracudas Swimming Club you are most welcome to join. You must be in the possession of swimming diploma C, and if you like music, swimming, stretching and exercise, this might be just the sport for you! For more information, please contact the Barracudas Synchronized Swimming Club, Louella Brezovar, tel 587-3527.



Always be smarter than the people who hire you.

Lena Horne



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For \$29, there is a wide selection of delicious dishes to choose from.

Á la carte (5 pm - 00:30 am)

Enjoy a wide selection of top-quality international dishes, while enjoying the dinner show. This is fine late night-dining at it's best!

Luxurious dinnershow package (5 pm - 00:30 am)

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Dueling PianoZ

After the dinnershow performance, Zissles immediately transforms into the best piano show on the island: *Dueling PianoZ*.

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THIS will be the night you remember!

For a sneak peek of the show, information and reservations call **586 3800**.

www.zissles.com







Aruba's first Lionfish Derby coming up this Saturday, March 19



Byron displays a handmade gaf for catching lionfish

An information and registration night was conducted last Friday at the Hadicurari Fishermen's Center in Palm Beach, for the 1st Aruba Lionfish Derby to be held this coming Saturday, March 19.

Dr. Byron Boekhoudt, Marine Biologist and Director of the Coastal Zone Management informed SCUBA divers, snorkelers, fishermen and interested parties on techniques of catching lionfish, which will be brought back to the Hadicurari Restaurant located be-

tween the Marriot Surf Club and MooMba Beach Bar, where they will be cleaned, cooked and served up to all participants at no charge.

The restaurant is the principal sponsor of Saturday's event, along with various vendors that will provide beverage booths and other activities throughout the day. The derby is a cooper-

ative effort of the Aruba Marine Park Foundation, Hadicurari Fishermen's Foundation and the Department of Agriculture, Husbandry and Fisheries.

Competitors will take to the sea at 8:30 a.m from any location and are required to return with their catch for weigh-in at Hadicurari by 3:00 p.m..

Official registration and adherence to the regulations are required to be eligible for any of the prizes. Cash awards of 250 Arubian florins, (\$142. U.S.) and a trophy will go to:



Most Lionfish Caught by a Group, Most Caught by an Individual and Largest Lionfish by Length.

to the Red Sea and Indo-Pacific, were first noticed in the Atlantic Ocean around 1992; the specifics of how they came to be in seas in this part of the world is speculation, but the likelihood of them being released by someone with an aquarium for which they grew to large is generally accepted.

Unfortunately, lionfish are voracious predators and reproduce at a prodigious rate; because of their venomous spines they have no natural enemies and the population was soon out of control.

Lionfish spread to the Bahamas and throughout the Caribbean, finally to be found in Aruba and its sister islands around two years ago; Dr. Boekhoudt reports of the 3 islands, Aruba is the least hard hit, in Curacao and Bonaire the

lionfish population is considered of "epidemic proportions."

Local divers are reporting more frequent sightings and most dive operations usually catch and dispose of the fish whenever they can. Despite their beauty, they can decimate the rest of a reef population by nearly 80% in only one year, including important species which live on and control the algae that can damage the reef, eventually killing the entire eco-system.

Some time ago, islands of The Bahamas established Lionfish Derbies as a means of control, and the fish is

featured on many restaurant menus. It is hoped this 1st Lionfish Derby will prove successful in Aruba; Dr. Boekhoudt expressed a hope for at least 100 participants in this first derby, to make it so.

Those wishing to compete can call 586-0820 for an entry form or e-mail arubamarinepark@gmail.com or hadicurari.pesca@gmail.com. For more information and updates, visit their Facebook page listed as "Hadicurari."

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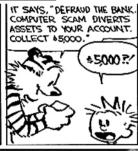






CALVIN and HOBBES











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March 12 - March 19

Eagle: "Botica di Serv. Eagle; S.N. : "Di Serv. Seroe Preto"

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Horacio Oduber Hospital Tel.587-4300

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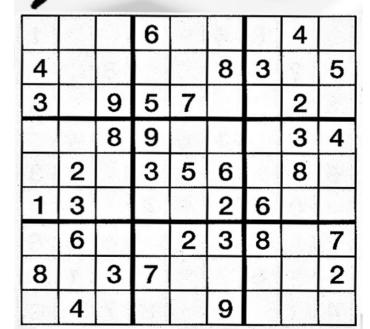
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Sudoku



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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Google rewards his top executives



Nikesh Arora, Vice President of European Operations at Google, speaks at the opening of the GooglePlex

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Google has awarded nearly \$9 million in bonuses and another \$50 million in equity to four top executives of the Internet giant, according to a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Patrick Pichette, Google's chief financial officer, received a \$2.7 million bonus and \$15 million in equity while chief business officer Nikesh Arora received a \$2.7 million bonus and \$20 million in equity.

Google's senior vice president for engineering and research Alan Eustace was awarded a \$1.8 million bonus

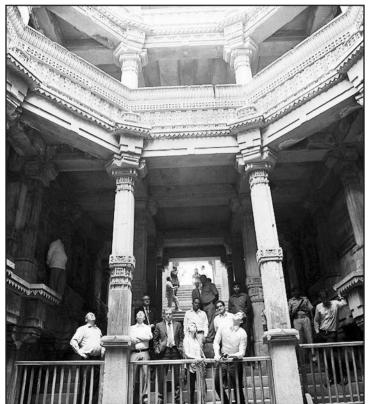
and another \$10 million in equity, according to the SEC filing.

Senior vice president for product management Jonathan Rosenberg received a \$1.7 million bonus and \$5 million in equity.

Google's outgoing chief executive Eric Schmidt and cofounders Larry Page and Sergey Brin did not receive any additional compensation.

Page is to replace Schmidt as Google's CEO in April.

Google announced plans in January to give Schmidt \$100 million in stock and stock options



AHMEDABAD,India: Premier Brad Wall of Saskatchewan-Canada (C) along with his business delegation visits the Adalaj Ni Vav step well some 30 kms from Ahmedabad yesterday. The delegation is on a visit to India to strengthen trade, investment and innovation links between the western Canadian province and the state of Gujarat.

AFP PHPOTO

Japan says quake impact on economy 'considerable'

TOKYO (AFP) – Japan's government said it expects a "considerable" economic impact from a huge earthquake and tsunami that plunged the nation into what the prime minister called its worst crisis since the Second World War.

Economists say it is still too early to assess the full cost of the destruction from the record 8.9-magnitude quake and the 10-metre wall of water that laid waste to the northeastern coast and triggered an atomic emergency.

The official death toll so far is 1,200, but is certain to rise substantially, with one hard-hit prefecture saying as many as 10,000 could be dead.

"The quake is expected to have considerable impact on a wide range of our country's economic activities," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano said.

Leading risk analysis firm AIR Worldwide said the quake alone would exact an economic toll estimated at between \$14.5 billion and \$34.6 billion, without taking into account the effects of the



tsunami.

The Bank of Japan plans to pump "massive" funds into markets in a bid to help them stabilise following the linked disasters, Dow Jones Newswires said.

Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei index is meanwhile expected to tumble, with the index possibly breaking the psychologically important 10,000 level.

The quake and tsunami have damaged or closed down key ports, although airports such as Tokyo's Narita have since reopened. Transport infrastructure such as train lines and roads have been crippled

along parts of the northeast.

Many top Japanese firms have said they are suspending operations. Automakers Toyota, Nissan and Honda have announced the total suspension of production in Japan until at least beginning of the week.

Sony Corp suspended production at its six plants in Miyagi Prefecture, which was hard hit by the quake, and neighbouring Fukushima Prefecture, it said, adding it has evacuated all employees there.

Mitsubishi said it would halt production at all three of its domestic plants. Suzuki motors also said it was suspending all domestic plant operations.

The immediate prospects for Japan's atomic power industry are a key concern following a radioactive leak and an explosion at the ageing Fukushima No. 1 atomic plant located 250 kilometres (160 miles) northeast of Tokyo.

Japan's nuclear industry provides around a third of the nation's power needs, and the shutdown of reactors will lead to a shortfall in electricity supply that will make power outages necessary, the government warned.

Oil exports must resume, Libya tells foreign firms



 Black smoke billows from a petrochemical factory on fire following clashes between pro and anti-Kadhafi militants.

TRIPOLI (AFP) – Libya has asked foreign firms to resume oil exports from the North African nation, saying its ports are safe despite a deadly month-long conflict, state television said.

"Libyan oil terminals have become safe... All employees are asked to return to their jobs in all oil facilities. And we urge (foreign) firms to send their tankers to load and unload," the television said quoting the National Oil Corporation.

Oil giant Total said that unrest in Libya had slashed output by 1.4 million barrels a day to under 300,000.

Libya was producing 1.69 barrels a day before the unrest, according to the International Energy Agency. Of this 1.2 million were exported, mostly to Europe. Other major customers are China and the United States.

Rebels fighting to unseat Libyan strongman Moamer Kadhafi have lost control of the key oil towns of Zawiya and Ras Lanuf to loyalist forces who drove them out with intense air strikes and shelling.

The insurgents have been also forced out of the towns of Uqayla and Brega.

Libya's oil chief, Shukri Ghanem, said operations at the Zawiyah refinery resumed

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

MOP CAWS SRO

1 DO ATOP SKIN

SOMBRERO PINE

TREAT DREAM

JET TERMS

DEBASES KEELS

ATA DIN RAT

BABES REPASTS

LURED DEL

SARIS NINES

RAHS SHANTERS

BIKE KALE NAT

La Vie Med-Spa opens at SoBe Centre







South Beach Centre -- La Vie Med Spa and Beauty Salon just opened offering a variety of innovative treatments including European Facials and Teen Facials, for oily acne prone skin, Hot & Cold Stone Facials, Micro Needle Therapy designed to penetrate the epidermis and help restore youth and elasticity, Dermafile, for polished perfection, Collagen, Elastin with Paraffin Treatments, Galvanic Facelift for toning, and Blended Peels which erase wrinkles and lighten the skin, with the help of organic fruit and vi-

La Vie Med Spa also offered a complete menu of sauna use, herbal teas and body massages, wraps and more, for a minimum of 6 exfoliation, utilizing Dead Sea Salts, Chamomile Mud, Seaweed Mud. Paraffin. Sugar, Geranium, Sage and Salt and naturally, Aruba's famous Aloe, to truly invigorate and detoxify body skin.

The just-opened spa offers interesting Exfoliation located upstairs behind and Wrap combos as well as J.H.Yee Asian Bistro, ample more advanced as-seen-on- parking on site.

TV options such as Spider Vein Therapy, Pre and Post Plastic Surgery treatments, Cellulite Treatments, Tattoo Removals, Laser Hair Removal, Waxing, Permanent Make Up, Make Up for special occasion, the latest in Cosmetic Dental Whitening and a full service hair salon.

Naturally, no spa is complete without a detailed Hand & Foot Care menu, with a special Hand Rejuvenation Treatment offered to moisturize aging dry and rough hands.

La Vie Med Spa is available to receive birthday celebrations and bachelorette parties, with complimentary

The brand new spa is beautifully appointed and decorated to help patrons reach the state of ultimate beauty in a most relaxing. environment gracious LaVieMedSpa@gmail.com.

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and



town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for by the end of 2011. It will also house a restaurant and minimarket.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only

quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their homes. An elegant and chic the community with a workout standard package is available, room and spectacular facilities or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to

purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval Inter-

are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba. and took from there.'

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their own home in Aruba will eventually be a community of 260

a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the management association's rental service, There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, making it easy for some owners to earn their mortgage payments or others to see an immediate re-

national to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.



turn on their investment.

is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the island environment, with the finest

Visit their website: The design of the structures www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



CENDEMENTO DI CANDELA ETERNO

18 maart Aruba ta celebra 25 aña di realisacion di un lucha y un anhelo cu a pasa di generacion pa generacion.

BAO LUZ DI LANTERNA ARUBIANONAN A CANA, A MARCHA Y LUCHA YA NA INICIO DI SIGLO PASA PA TA BAAS DEN NOS MES CAS.

E LUZ DI HISTORIA, DI LUCHA, LOGRO Y FUTURO AKI LO KEDA CENDI PA ETERNIDAD RIBA MONUMENTO 18 DI MAART DEN RECONOCIMENTO DI BIDA, DETERMINACION, PRINCIPIO Y BALENTIA DI 2147 ARUBIANO CU A CENDE E LUZ DI SPERANSA, CALOR Y AMOR PA ARUBA DUSHI TERA DEN NOS CURASON.

Cu bahada di solo, e luz riba e caminda cu nos a cana lo wordo cendi pa ilumina e entrada di 18 di maart algun ora prome.... Aruba lo uni y rindi homenahe na e fundeshi di nos lucha, na e claridad di nos futuro cu cendemento di un candela eterno na fundeshi di e nombernan cu a carga y lidera e anhelo Arubano.

7:00 pm - 17 di Maart 2011 - Plaza 18 di Maart

6:15 - Orkesta di Alumnonan di FDEC 6:45 - Coro Ars Nova - 7:00 - Himno di Aruba 7:05 - Discurso Presidente di Fundacion 18 di Maart, Sra. Mary Wever-Laclé 7:10 - Discurso di Hoben Parlamentario Juan David Yrausquin 7::15 Discurso di Presidente di Parlamento, Paul Croes 7:20 - Ceremonia di cende candela eterno pa Minister President Mike Eman



Gobierno di Aruba



Continued from pg 16

David Benjamin, from Int'l. Special Olympics conducts workshops for



Benjamin with Dennis Conrado, Treasurer Special Olympics committee

Mr. Benjamin has been involved for 20 of the 35 years that Special Olympics have existed in the Caribbean; his personal specialty in coach-



ing is soccer. There are now over 13 million special athletes worldwide involved in competition; 2007 games in Shanghai, China welcomed over 7,500 competitors from nearly 162 nations.

Mr. Benjamin explained in two days of sessions the many aspects of coaching Down Syndrome athletes, mentally, emotionally and physically. He emphasized the importance of recognizing the level of capability of each athlete, so as to not hold back the more able by gearing training to the least capable.

"It is important for coaches to be re-evaluated and upgraded in Olympics Special methodology every four years; this is a mandate from Special Olympics Incorporated," he explained. There are new techniques and strategies being used now opposed to what was used years ago. My job is to see that standards are maintained in regards to coaching excellence.'

"The ongoing knowledge of who are athletes now allows us to determine how our athlete can be trained. We are moving away from only encouraging athletes to compete because of the physical benefits of

exercise, to understanding some can compete at normal standards. Trinidad and Tobego has a special athlete in triathlon who is #2 in the sport in the nation, not only on the "special" level, but the

> normal national level. Cayman Islands also has a swimming champion who is a "special athlete." So we are now coming to recognize that many have the talent and ability to compete and win in the mainstream as well. Our training methodology requires us to recognize and harness those skills in a way where you can train several groups at various ability levels at the same time. We have to be able to target all those levels in one session, which is the special skill of an SO coach. They have to be able to adapt to meet all the expectations of your athletes; many coaches can't do that, multitasking

in the same group."

Mr. Benjamin admitted it is a challenge across the Caribbean to get sport unions and governing bodies to accept or recognize especially talented special athletes and integrate them into their

mainstream programs; this is one of the issues he addresses while traveling across the region conducting workshops. "As with every sport com-

"As with every sport competition, you will have those that will win...and those that will "not win," concluded Mr. Benjamin, "we don't

have "losers" in Special Olympics. Everyone who competes has achieved; representing their country is an achievement in itself. All those qualifying to represent Aruba at this year's games have made a great achievement. In Special Olympics, we celebrate all achievement."

By Rosalie Klein



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Kiwis, Aussies reach World Cup quarter-finals

NEW DELHI (AFP) - Defending champions Australia and New Zealand eased into the World Cup quarter-finals on Sunday as Kenya and Canada toiled manfully, but fruitlessly, in defeat.

Australia extended their unbeaten World Cup record to 33 matches with a 60-run run win over Kenya in Bangalore while the Black Caps pulled off a 97-run victory over the Canadians in Mumbai.

The trans-Tasman neighbours joined Sri Lanka in qualifying from Group A with Pakistan poised to complete the four qualifiers from the pool with victory over Zimbabwe on Monday.

Michael Clarke hit 93, the returning Michael Hussey made 54 while opener Brad Haddin contributed 65 as Australia racked up 324 for 6.

In reply, Kenya, who have lost all five matches, finished on 264-6 with Collins Obuya making an unbeaten 98 and Tanmay Mishra, with 72, making sure Ricky Ponting's side endured a frustrating day in the field.

"Bit of rust on the team today, even with the batting," said Australia skipper Ricky Ponting, whose team had not had a full match run-out for over two weeks after last weekend's clash with Sri Lanka was rained off.

"We've done plenty of training. We needed to be out there today to blow some cobwebs off and we've done that," he added, praising Kenya for battling hard.

In-form Ross Taylor (74) and big-hitting opener Brendon McCullum (101) helped New Zealand to victory over Canada.

New Zealand scored a

mammoth 358 for 6 at the Wankhede stadium, the venue for the April 2 final, which proved too much for Canada, who ended on 261 for 9.

Captain Ashish Bagai (84) and Jimmy Hansra (70 not out) came together to put on 125 for the fourth wicket and give the scoreboard a look of respectability.

"Our game-plan is to try and keep wickets in hand. Our strength is our lowerorder batting and the power that we have," said Taylor, who was standing in as skipper for the injured Daniel Vettori.

India are still on course to make the last eight but their three-wicket defeat to South Africa on Saturday sparked accusations from captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni that some players were showboating.

"In the batting powerplay, it's important that you don't play for the crowd, but for your country," said Dhoni.
India lost four wickets, in-

India lost four wickets, including those of Sachin Tendulkar (111) and Gautam Gambhir (69) for 30 runs during the batting powerplay, which eventually restricted their total to 296.

Their last nine wickets went for just 29 runs.

"You need to curb your thinking. Different people

have different roles and responsibilities," said Dhoni.

On Monday, Pakistan can wrap up the final qualifying spot in Group A with victory over Zimbabwe in Pallekele.

Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi said that struggling wicket-keeper Kamran Akmal and his younger brother Umar would both play.

There has been confusion over the Akmal brothers ever since the 110-run defeat against New Zealand last week, with elder brother Kamran missing two crucial chances to dismiss century-maker Ross Taylor.

Pakistan considered using Umar Akmal, Kamran's younger brother, as a makeshift keeper but abandoned those plans after he suffered a finger injury.

There were reports in Pakistani media that Umar had feigned injury to help Kamran keep his place, speculation denied by team management.

On Sunday Umar sprained his right ankle while playing football but Afridi confirmed the injury was not serious.

Also on Monday, Bangladesh can stay on course for qualification from Group B with victory over the Netherlands in Chittagong.

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Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen join Bulls celebration



CHICAGO (AFP) – Basketball Hall of Famers Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen joined in another championship celebration on Saturday as the Chicago Bulls commemorated the 20th anniversary of their first NBA title.

Jordan and Pippen and some of their former teammates and coaches were on hand for a ceremony during halftime of Saturday's game against Utah.

A video set to Tom Petty's "Learning to Fly" featured highlights of that campaign: Jordan dunking over Patrick Ewing, Pippen harrying opponents and John Paxson draining jump shots.

Former Bulls broadcaster Jim Durham served as the master of ceremonies.

Dennis Hopson, Horace Grant and Paxson all received warm welcomes. The excitement level rose for Pippen and when Jordan was called, the roar was deafening.

Pippen thanked the club for bringing "back a memory that we all want to live again just one more time."

"This is very special for

us," he said.

A beaming Jordan thanked the team for "allowing us to reunite".

"You guys are in store for a lot of other championships," added Jordan, now the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats and someone who has touted Chicago's Derrick Rose as a Most Vaouable Player candidate.

"That kid has come into his own," Jordan said of Rose. "He has matured quite a bit. When he came into the league, everybody said he had speed and can get to the rim, but he can't shoot. Now, he can shoot the three as well as pull-up shots. He has very few flaws."

The current surging Bulls team is raising memories of the dominant Bulls era, which started when the 1990-91 team completed a 61-21 season and finally got past Detroit after falling to the Pistons in the Eastern Conference finals the prior two seasons.

They defeated Magic Johnson's Los Angeles Lakers in five games to start the first of Chicago's two title three-peats.

Roddick rolls over Blake at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, California (AFP) – Former world number one Andy Roddick opened his Indian Wells tournament on a successful note Sunday by beating fellow American James Blake 6-3, 7-5

The 28-year-old Roddick hammered 13 aces and won 94 percent of the first serve points in a second round match of the WTA and ATP Masters 1000 event.

Roddick's win on the centre court stadium boosted his record this season to 15-2 as he tries to capture his first Indian Wells title. He lost to Ivan Ljubicic in last year's final.

Roddick advances to the third round where he will face fellow American John Isner, who stopped Brazil's Ricardo Mello 6-3, 7-6 (7/2) in the first match of the day on centre court.

Blake, who is ranked 158th in the world, has a 4-4 record this season after missing the first month of the year with shoulder and knee prob-

Roddick, who received a bye through the first round, now leads the overall series against Blake with eight wins and three losses dating back to 2002.

Roddick was one of three of the world's top 10 men in action on centre court Sunday. Taking the court later in the day is world number two Roger Federer and number 3 Novak Djokovic.

On the women's side, fifth seed Francesca Schiavone defeated Alize Cornet of France 6-2, 6-3.

Schiavone continued her domination over Cornet, breaking the Frenchwoman twice in the first set and then two more times in the second while winning 68 percent of her first serve points.

Schiavone, who is the oldest female player left in the draw at 30, has now won seven of eight career meetings over the 21-year-old Cornet.

The Italian No. 1 is the reigning French Open champion and is looking to improve on her fourth round finish at Indian Wells three years ago.

Schiavone beat Samantha Stosur at Roland Garros last year to become the first Italian in the modern era to win a grand slam.

Schiavone next faces the winner of a match between

Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia and Israel's Shahar Peer.

In other early men's second round matches, France's Richard Gasquet beat Pablo Cuevas 7-5, 6-3, Czech Tomas Berdych defeated Lukasz Kubot 6-4, 6-1 and Michael Llodra, of France, beat Santiago Giraldo 7-6 (8/6), 6-4.

In women's play, Marion Bartoli of France defeated German Andrea Petkovic 6-4, 6-2 and former No. 1 Ana Ivanovic eased past Barbora Zahlavova Strycova 6-2, 6-2.



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Title race hots up as Barca held by Sevilla

PARIS (AFP) - Barcelona dropped two vital points in the La Liga title race as they could only draw 1-1 with Sevilla in Sunday's late match.

Second-placed Real Madrid, who beat Hercules 2-0 on Saturday, are now just five points behind with the two sides going head-to-head next month at the Bernabeu.

Barcelona completely dominated the first half and took the lead on the half hour mark through Bojan Krkic who came on for the injured Pedro Rodriguez.

Andres Iniesta floated a pass to Diego Alves who found Bojan and he was able to walk the ball into the net.

Earlier, an injury time penalty from Diego Castro gave nine-man Sporting Gijon a surprise 1-1 draw against Villarreal.

The home side looked to have moved onto the shoulders of third-placed Valencia, who were beaten 4-0 by Zaragoza, but they conceded a goal following a controver-

sial refereeing call.

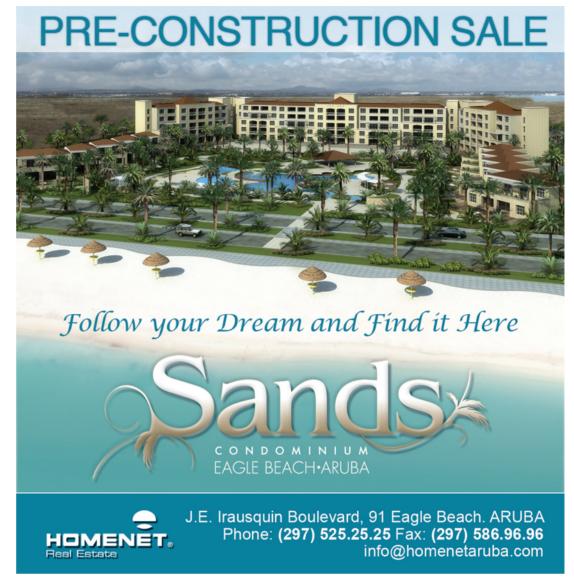
Espanyol boosted their European hopes with a 2-0 win over 10-man Deportivo la Coruna.

The home side had lost six of their previous seven games before the visit of the Galician side, but after a tight opening spell the match turned in Espanyol's favour with the dismissal of Pablo Alvarez shortly before half-time.

Ivan Alonso, who had been brought on to add ammunition to the attack, had a shot saved from point blank range but broke the deadlock minutes later.

Deportivo never looked like finding an equaliser and Joan Verdu added a touch of quality to the game with a fine strike into the top corner from 20 yards.

Bottom side Malaga pulled off a surprise 2-0 win away to Real Sociedad with Sergio Duda, who returned after missing six games, sending them on their way.



David Benjamin, from Int'l. Special Olympics conducts workshops for Aruban coaches



Benjamin with Special Athletes coaches

Aruba's Special Olympics Committee welcomed the Director of Sports & Training for the Caribbean, David R. Benjamin, a native of Trinidad and Tobego, to con-

duct workshops over this past weekend.

He is touring the

Caribbean, advising and certifying coaches in the newest techniques and discoveries on how to best train Special Olympics athletes to reach their full potential, thus giving them an advantage in the upcoming Summer Games, scheduled for June of this year in Athens. This is the first time the nation that provided the model for Olympics will host the International Special Olympics; it will also be the first summer games since the death of the founder, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, in 2009.

The 1st International Special Olympics Summer

Games were conducted at Soldier Field in Chicago, Illinois in July of 1968. 1,000 individuals with intellectual disabilities from 26 U.S. states and Canada competed in track and field and swimming. This year, the Athens games will feature competitions in 22 Olympic disciplines. Events will also include a "demonstration sport," a tradition of the SO; a sport particular to the region of the host is included, such as curling, when Canada hosted the games or cricket in China.

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